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(54) VISUAL TARGET TRACKING

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A visual target tracking method includes representing a human target with a machine-readable model configured for adjustment into a plurality of different poses and receiving an observed depth image of the human target from a source. The observed depth image is compared to the model. A refine-z force vector is then applied to one or more force-receiving locations of the model to move a portion of the model towards a corresponding portion of the observed depth image if that portion of the model is Z-shifted from that corresponding portion of the observed depth image.